

January 30, 2004
~~the computer for use in training management via a communication line when an access of the manager is recognized by the computer for use in training management; and display that displays the aggregated lecture information.--~~

REMARKS

Claims 1-17, 22-45, 48 and 51-53 are pending in this application. By this Preliminary Amendment claims 18-21, 46-47 and 49-50 are canceled, claims 1, 3-7, 10, 15, 16, 22-28, 31, 37, 41-45 and 48 are amended. New claims 51-53 are added.

The above amendments place the application in better condition for initial examination. Accordingly, prompt consideration and allowance in due course are earnestly solicited.

The attached Appendix includes marked-up copies of each rewritten claim (37 C.F.R. §1.121(c)(1)(ii)).

In a previous Office Action mailed November 14, 2001, the Office Action rejected claims 4, 16, 18-27 and 45-50 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Applicant has canceled claims 18-21 and 46-50 and thus rejection to these claims is now believed to be moot. As to the remaining claims Applicant has amended these claims to obviate the rejection.

The Office Action has further rejected claims 1-5, 8-12, 15, 20, 28-32, 35-38, 41 and 43 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Lee (U.S. Patent No. 6,064,856); rejected claims 1, 13, 28 and 39 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Bullen (U.S. Patent No. 6,033,226); rejected claims 1, 16-19, 21-28, 42 and 44-50 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Ho (U.S. Patent No. 6,213,780 B1); rejected claims 6, 7, 33 and 34 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee; and has rejected claims 14 and 40 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Bullen. As mentioned above, claims 18-21 and 36-50 have been canceled and thus rejection to these claims is now moot. New

claims 51, 52 and 53 generally correspond to original claims 18, 20 and 21 and therefore rejections to these claims are equally applicable to new claims 51-53, respectively. As to the pending claims, Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections.

With respect to independent claims 1, 28 and 51, neither Lee, Bullen nor Ho, disclose or suggest a recognition device that recognizes whether an access receives from the manager of the trainee or not, and provides an aggregate result to a terminal for the manager via the communication line based on a recognition result, as recited in independent claim 1 and similarly recited in independent claims 28 and 51.

Lee discloses that a teacher can use the results of the homework assignments in conjunction with each student's progress, which has been stored in another database file at the end of a previous day, to assign lesson segments. Alternatively, lesson segments can be determined solely on the basis of each student's progress and homework can be used either as a measure of retention or as a pretest. This assignment process allows a teacher to determine how much and what type of material each student can access for a given period of time, and provides opportunities for the teacher to tailor each student's individual learning program.

See for example, col. 5, on lines 18-32.

However, Lee fails to disclose or suggest a recognition device that recognizes whether an access receives from the manager of the trainee or not and provides the aggregate result based on the recognition result.

Neither Bullen nor Ho cures the above noted deficiencies of Lee.

Bullen discloses that the user is allowed to test his progress and acquired skill by having a textual and preprogrammed animated test session. The user's skill and number of attempts before passing may be recorded on the computer in a database or possibly on a network server if the training software runs on a network, for immediate review but a

superior watching from another site. Additionally, the superior can control the questions in real time during the test if desired. See for example col. 9, lines 32-38.

Ho, on the other hand, discloses computer aided learning methods and apparatus that can automatically identify learning objectives and provide learning materials for a user based on a job position identified for the user. See for example Abstract.

On the contrary, both Bullen and Ho fail to disclose or suggest a recognition device that recognizes whether an access receives from the manager of the trainee or not and provides the aggregation result based on the recognition result, as recited in independent claim 1 and similarly recited in independent claims 28 and 51.

With respect to claims 22-24 and 45 neither Lee, Bullen nor Ho disclose or suggest a computer for use in training management that manages lecture information of a trainee who takes an education training course including providing device connected to a storing device that provides when the contents of the education training course are changed a notification of the change or information about the changed contents to the terminal for a trainee who needs to take a lecture and/or the terminal for a manager who manages the trainee, as recited in independent claim 22 and similarly recited in independent claims 23, 24 and 45.

For reasons as stated above, both Lee and Bullen fail to disclose or suggest the above-mentioned feature of independent claims 22-24 and 45.

Ho discloses that after the identification of one or more job positions, the ascender would ascertain at least one learning objective of the user, if needed. For example, ascertaining at least one learning objective depends on the job position identified and the user's profile. The ascender can match the user's prior learning history and work experience and with the job skills required in the identified job position. The user's work experience provides indications on her experience and knowledge in certain subjects. See for example, col. 14, lines 49-58.

On the contrary, Ho fails to disclose or suggest providing device connected to the storing device that provides when the contents of the education training course are changed a notification of the change or information about the change contents to the trainee's terminal and/or the manager's terminal, as recited in independent claim 25 and similarly recited in independent claims 23, 24 and 45.

With respect to claims 25-27 and 48, for reasons as stated above with respect to Lee, Bullen and Ho, none of these references disclose or suggest a computer for use in training management that manages lecture information of a trainee who takes an education training course, including providing device, connected to a storing device, that changes when information of a change of post or job content of the trainee is provided, stored data in the storing device corresponding to the trainee, and information of lecture contents to be taken by the trainee according to the change, and provides the change information to a terminal for a trainee via a communication line, as recited in independent claim 25, and similarly recited in independent claims 26, 27 and 48.

With respect to claim 41, for reasons as stated above with respect to Lee, Bullen and Ho, none of these references disclose or suggest a method of education training management that provides the lecture information to the manager's terminal via a communications line according to instructions of the manager with authority, as recited in independent claim 41.

With respect to claim 43, for reasons as stated above with respect to Lee, Bullen and Ho, none of these references disclose or suggest a method of education training for trainee who takes education training provided by a terminal for a trainee including the lecture information to be transmitted to the computer for use in training management is readable by a manager of the trainee when an access of the manager is recognized by the computer for use in training management, as recited in independent claim 43.

With respect to claim 44, for reasons as stated above with respect to Lee, Bullen and Ho, none of these references disclose or suggest a method education training management for a trainee who takes an education training course including reading lecture information stored in the computer for use in training management when an access of the manager is recognized by the computer for use in training management by transmitting identification information of the manager, as recited in independent claim 44.

With respect to claim 52, for reasons as stated above with respect to Lee, Bullen and Ho, none of these references disclose or suggest a terminal for a trainee who takes an education training course, connected to a computer for use in training management that manages lecture information of the trainee, that can provide an education training course taken by the trainee, the terminal for a trainee including the lecture information is being aggregated and stored in the computer for use in training management, and provided to a terminal for the manager of the trainee via a communication line when the access of the manager is recognized by the computer for use in training management, as recited in independent claim 52.

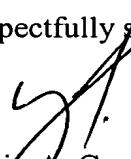
With respect to claim 53 for reasons as stated above with respect to Lee, Bullen and Ho, none of these references disclose or suggest a terminal for a manager who manages a trainee who takes an education training course, connected to a computer for use in training management that manager's lecture information of the trainee including reading device that read an aggregated lecture information of the trainee from the computer for use in training management via a communication line when the access of the manager is recognized by the computer for use in training management, as recited in independent claim 53.

Accordingly, Applicant submits that independent claims 1, 22-28, 41, 43-45, 48, 51-53 define patentable subject matter. Claims 2-17 depend from independent claim 1, claims 29-40 depend from independent claim 28 and therefore also define patentable subject

matter. In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant submits that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-17, 22-45, 48 and 51-53 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,


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Attachment:
Appendix

Date: May 21, 2002

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DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE
AUTHORIZATION
Please grant any extension
necessary for entry;
Charge any fee due to our
Deposit Account No. 15-0461



Changes to Claims:

Claims 18-21, 46-47 and 49-50 are canceled.

Claims 51-53 are added.

The following is a marked-up version of the amended claims 1, 3-7, 10, 15, 16, 22-28, 31, 37, 41-45 and 48:

1. (Amended) An education training management system comprising:
 - a terminal for a trainee that can provide an education training course taken by a trainee;
 - a terminal for a manager used by a manager of the trainee; and
 - a computer for use in training management, the computer being connected to both the terminal for a trainee and the terminal for a manager via a communication line, and which manages lecture information of the trainee,
 - wherein the terminal for a trainee includes information communication means device that automatically transmits lecture information of the trainee to the computer for use in training management,
 - the computer for use in training management includes aggregate storing means device that aggregates the received lecture information and stores the aggregate result, and recognition device, connected to the aggregate storing device, that recognizes whether an access receives from the manager of the trainee or not, and provides the aggregate result to the terminal for the manager via the communication line based on the recognition result, and
 - the terminal for a manager includes reading means device that can read the aggregate result by accessing the computer for a manager use in training management via the communication line.

3. (Amended) The education training management system according to claim 2,

wherein, ~~based on the lecture information~~, the computer for use in training management comprises ~~means for appropriateness analysis~~ device, connected to the aggregate storing device, that analyzes the appropriateness of the education training course based on the lecture information.

4. (Amended) The education training management system according to claim 2, wherein, ~~based on the lecture information~~, the computer for use in training management comprises ~~means for analyzing the level of understanding~~ analysis device, connected to the aggregate storing device, understanding that performs analysis of analyzes the level of understanding of the trainee with regard to the education training course based on the lecture information.

5. (Amended) The education training management system according to claim 4, wherein the ~~means for analyzing the level of understanding~~ analysis device transmits analysis results of the level of understanding of the trainee to the terminal for a trainee, and

the terminal for a trainee again provides the trainee with a portion for which his or her level of understanding did not reach a predetermined standard.

6. (Amended) The education training management system according to claim 1, wherein the lecture information includes progress information of the trainee, and

the computer for use in training management comprises, an e-mail delay transmission means device, connected to the aggregate storing device, that transmits an e-mail of delay notification to e-mail addresses of the trainee and the manager based on the progress information if the time spent on the lecture exceeds a previously set time.

7. (Amended) The education training management system according to claim 1,

wherein the lecture information includes progress information of the trainee, and

the computer for use in training management comprises, a demanding e-mail transmission ~~means~~ device, connected to the aggregate storing device, that transmits an e-mail demanding notification to e-mail addresses of the trainee and the manager based on the progress information in the case where the number of days spent on the lecture exceeds a previously set number of days.

10. (Amended) The education training management system according to claim 1, wherein the communication line is the Internet, and the computer for use in training management communicates, as a Web server, with the terminal for a trainee and the terminal for a manager with the Internet.

15. (Amended) The education training management system according to claim 1, wherein the computer for use in training management gives the manager authority to enable ~~at least either~~ a change of lecture contents of the trainee ~~or to refer to lecture information, and change changes~~ the lecture contents, ~~or provide the terminal for a manager with the lecture information via the a communication line~~ according to the instruction of the manager with authority.

16. (Amended) The education training management system according to claim 1, wherein the computer for use in training management, when the contents of the education training course are changed, provides ~~at least either~~ the terminal for a trainee of the trainee who needs to take a lecture according to the change ~~or and/or~~ the terminal for a manager of the manager who manages the trainee with notification of change or information about the changed contents via the communication line.

22. (Amended) A computer for use in training management that manages lecture information of a trainee who takes an education training course, comprising:

storing device that stores the lecture information of a trainee; and
wherein, if providing device, connected to said storing device, that provides
when the contents of the education training course are changed, a notification of the change
or information about the changed contents is provided to at least either the terminal for a
trainee of a trainee who needs to take a lecture according to the change or and/or the terminal
for a manager of a manager who manages the trainee via a communication line.

23. (Amended) A terminal for a trainee that can provide an education training course taken by a trainee, comprising:

information communication device, that receiveswherein, ifwhen the contents of the education training course that the trainee have to take is changed, a notification of the change or information about the changed contents is received from a computer for use in training management that manages lecture information of the trainee via a communication line.

24. (Amended) A terminal for a manager used by the manager of a trainee who takes an education training course, comprising:

whereininformation communication device, that receives, ifwhen the contents of the education training course that the trainee have to take is changed, a notification of the change or information about the changed contents is received from a computer for use in training management that manages lecture information of the trainee.

25. (Amended) A computer for use in training management that manages lecture information of a trainee who takes an education training course, comprising:

storing device that stores the lecture information of a trainee; and
wherein, if providing device, connected to said storing device, that changes
when information of a change of post or job content of the trainee is provided, stored data in the storing device corresponding to the trainee is changed, and information of lecture contents

to be taken by the trainee ~~is also changed~~ according to the change, and provides the changed information ~~is provided~~ to a terminal for a trainee ~~of the trainee~~ via a communication line.

26. (Amended) A terminal for a trainee that can provide an education training course to be taken by a trainee, comprising:

~~wherein~~ information communication device, that provides information of a change of post or job content of the trainee ~~is provided~~ to a computer for use in training management that manages lecture information of the trainee via a communication line to change stored data in the computer for use in training management corresponding to the trainee ~~is changed~~ and information of lecture contents to be taken by the trainee ~~is also changed~~ according to the change.

27. (Amended) A terminal for a manager used by a manager of a trainee who takes an education training course comprising:

~~wherein~~ information communication device, that provides information of a change of post or job content of the trainee who are under management of the manager ~~is provided~~ to a computer for use in training management that manages lecture information of the trainee via a communication line to change stored data in the computer for use in training management corresponding to the trainee ~~is changed~~, and information of lecture contents to be taken by the trainee ~~is also changed~~ according to the change.

28. (Amended) A method of education training management, comprising the steps of:

providing an education training ~~try~~ course for a trainee through a terminal for a trainee;

receiving lecture information of ~~to~~ the trainee from the terminal for a trainee via a communication line;

aggregating the lecture information and storing the aggregate results by a computer for use in training management; and

~~enabling a manager of the trainee to read the aggregate results when the manager accesses the computer for use in training management by a terminal for a manager via a communication line~~ recognition whether an access receives from a manager of the trainee or not; and providing the aggregate results to a terminal for the manager via a communication line based on the recognition result.

31. (Amended) The method of education training management according to ~~any one of~~ claims 29 and 30,

wherein the step of storing the aggregate result includes a step of performing analysis regarding the level of understanding for the education training course based on the lecture information.

37. (Amended) The method of education training management according to claim 28,

wherein the communication line is the Internet, and the computer for use in training management, as a Web server, communicates with the terminal for a trainee and the terminal for a manager with the Internet.

41. (Amended) A method of education training management, comprising the steps of:

giving a manager authority to perform ~~at least either a change or lecture contents of a trainee or~~ reading of lecture information ~~by~~ from a computer for use in training management that manages lecture information of the trainee; and

~~changing the lecture contents managed by the computer for use in training management or~~ providing the lecture information to the terminal for a manager via a communication line according to instructions of the manager with authority.

42. (Amended) The method of education training management according to claim 41, further comprising a step of judging recognizing whether a manager is an access receives from a manager with authority or not based on identification information of the manager provided via the communication line.

43. (Amended) A method of education training for a trainee who takes education training provided by a terminal for a trainee, comprising the steps of:

receiving an education training course from a computer for use in training management that manages lecture information of the trainee via a communication line; and transmitting the lecture information to the computer for use in training management,

wherein the lecture contents of the education training course provided by the computer for use in training management can be changed by a manager of the trainee, or the lecture information to be transmitted to the computer for use in training management is readable by the a manager of the trainee when an access of the manager is recognized by the computer for use in training management.

44. (Amended) A method of education training management for a trainee who takes an education training course, comprising the steps of:

transmitting identification information of a manager from to a computer for use in training management by using a terminal for a manager used by the manager of the trainee via a communication line; and

giving authority for performing at least either a change of lecture contents of the trainee or reading of lecture information with regard to data stored in a the computer for use in training management according to the identification information when an access of the manager is recognized by the computer for use in training management by transmitting

identification information of the manager ~~to the computer for use in training management that manages lecture information of the trainee via a communication line.~~

45. (Amended) A method of education training management for a trainee who takes an education training course provided by a terminal for a trainee, the method comprising:

storing a lecture information from the terminal for a trainee; and
wherein, if providing when the contents of the education training course is changed, a notification of change or information about the changed contents ~~is provided to at least either a~~ ~~the~~ terminal for a trainee ~~of the trainee~~ who needs to take a lecture ~~according to the change or and/or~~ a terminal for a manager ~~of a manager~~ who manages the trainee via a communication line.

48. (Amended) A method of education training management for a trainee who takes an education training course provided by a terminal for a trainee, the method comprising:

storing a lecture information from the terminal for a trainee; and
wherein, if changing, when the information of a change of post or job content of the trainee is provided to a computer for use in training management that manages the lecture information of a trainee, stored data in the computer for use in training management corresponding to the trainee, and is changed, information of lecture contents to be taken by the trainee ~~is also changed~~ according to the change, and providing the changed information ~~is provided by the computer for use in training management~~ to the terminal for a trainee ~~of the trainee~~ via a communication line.